

# **New Jersey Numismatic Journal**



The Journal of the Garden State Numismatic Association  
Spring 2005    Volume 30, Number 1  
Frances Cackowski, Editor

**All Aspects of the Coin Market are Exploding!  
GSNA Members are Leading the Charge!**



At the 800<sup>th</sup> meeting of the New Jersey Numismatic Society, Ron Thompson was awarded the "Nettleship Service Award" by Spencer Peck (right).

Ron is highlighted on Page 16 as the first in a new special feature series:  
"How I Started Collecting Coins"

**The GSNA 30th Annual Convention  
will be held May 19-21, 2005**

**Clear your Schedules and Plan to Attend!!!**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our annual Convention will soon be upon us. This year promises to be even more exciting than the last. We have a sold-out bourse with a strong array of dealers from across the spectrum of the hobby from ancients, to foreign, tokens, medals, copper, currency and U.S., so there should be something for everyone.

The New Jersey Exonomia Society is this year's Host Club. They will have a strong presence at the show. As always, we can use a few good volunteers to help out at the registration desk. This is a great opportunity to meet other collectors and "give back" to the hobby. Ron Thompson is coordinating the volunteer schedule. Contact him at: [rst@rei.rutgers.edu](mailto:rst@rei.rutgers.edu) if you can give us an hour or two.

You may have seen our forest green GSNA shirts at your local club meetings. They will be available for order at the show, so plan to show your colors. Both short and long sleeve styles are available. We will place the order after the Convention and ship via Priority Mail to your home.

Books are "Brain Food" and give you a real edge in the hobby, especially if they are read. Our resident bookseller, John Burns, will be coming in from Pittsburgh to support the Show. Plan to visit, look over his extensive stock and buy at least one book to add to your library.

We will have exhibits set up throughout the show and encourage you to take some time to look them over. We will be voting for the YN and Peoples Choice Awards and encourage you to take the time to vote your choice.

New World Rarities will again hold an auction on Friday evening at 6:00 PM. Stop by their table and take a look at the lots available, which should include a very rare \$4 Gold Stella. If you've never seen one, now will be your chance. Last year's sale grossed a quarter of a million dollars and this year's should be even better. Plan to attend. Better yet: Plan to bid.

The program for Saturday will include Larry Gentile's very popular Young Numismatists (YN) Program starting at 10 AM. There is no charge and we provide all books, coins and lunch for the students. Pass the word and encourage all your local YNs to attend. It is very worthwhile.

Saturday will see meetings of the New Jersey Exonomia Society at 10:30 AM, followed by our annual business meeting at noon. EAC and C4 will hold a joint meeting at 1 PM.

Looking to the future, we would like to sponsor a Saturday Seminar on New Jersey's Money in the Fall or Winter but need someone to step forward to organize and host this event. If anyone is interested, please contact me.

We also plan to again sponsor, with the ANA, our very popular three day Grading and Counterfeit Detection Seminar on May 15-17, 2006: the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday preceding next years Convention. The ANA provides great instructors as well as the coins for student examination from the ANA's extensive collection. Reserve the dates now as the class is limited to 25. Information and application materials will appear in the Winter issue of the Journal, as well as on our web site: [www.GSNA.org](http://www.GSNA.org). Because of the significant work involved, we plan to offer these classes only on alternate years, so your next chance will be in 2008.

Happy Hunting,  
Spence

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## **ANA UPDATE**

By Jim Majoros, ANA Regional Coordinator for NJ/Metro NY

ANA conventions come and go. By the time that you read this, the mid-year at Kansas City will be history. It was scheduled for April 8-10, but you are still in time to attend the ANA's World Fair of Money Convention in San Francisco, July 27-31. All it takes is a ticket and a reservation to travel to a great city and a great convention. Hope to see some of you there. Nominations for the Board of Governors to include the ANA President, Vice President and seven Governor's were accepted up through March 31, and the new board will be announced at the convention. Our own Bill Horton, Jr, current ANA Vice President, is running for President, and Michael Fey for a Governor position. Both are GSNA members, and Bill was the co-founder of the GSNA back in 1975.

Although there was a slight increase in ANA dues at the beginning of the year, the benefits of the association along with their outstanding monthly magazine, certainly are worthy of membership. Individuals interested in becoming a member can contact me at [major@ameri-com.com](mailto:major@ameri-com.com) or call me at 732-255-6911.

### ***Good News to be Shared***

Welcome **Michael Steven Heim** as our newest young numismatist, born December 27<sup>th</sup> to Lisa and Greg. He is a mint condition baby boy, 20 ¾ inches, weighing 9 lbs, 4 oz. Best Wishes to all of the Heims!!

### ***A New Budd Lake Coin Show: Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>***

**Location:** Budd Lake Squad Building, Route 46, Budd Lake, NJ

**Time:** 10:00 – 4:00

**Questions:** Call Kathy at (973) 229-3452

# GSNA Convention May 19-21, 2005

Somerset, NJ

30th Anniversary Show!

## SHOW HOURS

Thur. 1 PM - 7 PM  
Fri. 10 AM - 7 PM  
Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM



## DIRECTIONS

Route 287 to Exit 10  
Take Route 527 North.  
Turn left on Davidson Ave.  
The Ukrainian Cultural Center  
is on the right.

Visit the GSNA web site,  
**www.GSNA.org**,  
for the latest convention  
and club information.

Free Admission  
for Members!

## NJ Token & Medal Show

**Auction Friday at 6 PM**  
**By New World Rarities**  
Consignments are now  
being accepted.  
Call 800-431-1018

Books and Supplies  
Exhibits

Free Appraisals

Buy, Sell, and Trade  
Coins, Currency,  
Tokens, & Medals

C4, EAC, & NJES  
Meetings Saturday

YN Program  
Sat. 10 AM

## DEALER INFORMATION

Dealer set up 9 AM - 1 PM Thur. May 19  
Early admission badge good  
for all 3 days is \$25.

### Show Chairman:

Tom Hyland

P.O. Box 296

Sussex, NJ 07461

Phone: 973-875-7926

Email: tom.hyland@gsna.org

**Hotel Information:** The GSNA has a limited amount of rooms reserved at the Doubletree for \$92.00 that includes the breakfast buffet. Call 1-800-554-3612 and ask for the GSNA rate. The Doubletree is located on the left side of Davidson Ave. just past the show site.

## Membership Has Its Privileges

This year, we will have a "Members Express Line" to expedite the entrance of GSNA members to the Convention. Bring along this issue of the NJNJ as your proof of membership, and you will avoid having to wait in the non-members line. Members are free!!!

## Letter from the Editor

Here we are, it's Spring, and the GSNA is looking forward to its Spring Convention. I urge all of you to attend at least one of the days. It is a great opportunity to meet your fellow coin collectors in the state, buy some great numismatic treasures (including books), see some first class exhibits,, and meet the ANA candidates from the state of New Jersey.

This is my second journal as your editor, and you will notice some special features. I want to continue to make the journal a primary vehicle of communication between the clubs and collectors of the state. Therefore, in this issue I am introducing three new features. Please give me you feedback at [asifran@yahoo.com](mailto:asifran@yahoo.com).

1. The "Garden State Express"
2. "Exploring the ANA"
3. "How I Started Collecting Coins"

As your editor, I have had to expand my knowledge of the clubs in the state beyond those to which Dave, my husband, belongs. First, I was surprised to learn that many collectors belong to multiple clubs, often traveling long distances. I discovered that clubs, like people, have their own personalities. Some are primarily for buying and selling, some are primarily for educating, and some are more social. I realized that, like one has multiple friends to share different experiences, a collector can be a member of several clubs, each of which meets a different numismatic need. In preparing this journal, I was amazed at the things going on in the state, and I wish to share them with you. Each journal your editor will board the "Garden State Express" and feature a different GSNA club. Perhaps you might be tempted to visit a new club, and become a member. (Contact me if you want your club featured.)

Are you a member of the ANA? If so, what benefits of the ANA are you using? If you are not a member, why not? In each issue I will explore another facet of the ANA, bringing the ANA from Colorado into your home. I will borrow books, explore the website, interview Summer Session attendees, and request presentations. I will then share my experiences with you. Due to the time sensitivity of the ANA elections, this issue will be devoted to the candidates from our state.

Why do you collect coins? How did you get started? Share your stories with our readers. I would love to hear from YN's, new members, and people who have enjoyed the hobby for virtually their whole lifetime. Featured this issue is Ron Thompson, recipient of the "Nettleship Service Award". His picture is on the front cover.

Again, this is your journal. I not only appreciate your feedback, but I rely upon all of you for information. Keep the cards and letters coming. Remember, call me at 718-761-6596 if you chose to phone in your input, rather than write it out. See you all at the convention!

# OUR 30<sup>th</sup> CONVENTION!

## GSNA Convention 2005

The 2005 GSNA Convention will be held on May 19-21, 2005 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday), in Somerset New Jersey at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, right off Rte 287, Exit 10.

Featuring dozens of dealers of Coins, Currency, Tokens, Medals, Exonumia on 8,000 sq ft Bourse Floor, this is the largest coin show in New Jersey. In addition, you will find:

- Books and supplies
- Exhibits
- Free grading and appraisals
- Club Meetings (C4, EAC, and others)
- Annual GSNA Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony
- YN Program (Saturday) for Numismatists 18 and under
- New Jersey Token and Medal Show
- Largest Coin Show in New Jersey

The bourse itself will feature both local dealers plus a good representation of dealers from outside the area. We often have dealers from Maryland, Virginia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Colorado, Florida, Michigan and surrounding states.

For more convention information, please contact the show chairman at [tom.hyland@gsna.com](mailto:tom.hyland@gsna.com). Discounted rooms are available at The Doubletree.

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## Award Nominations

A highlight of our convention is the Awards Ceremony. Awards are presented for individuals (Numismatist of the Year), Club of the Year, and YN of the Year, based upon member recommendations. Please send your recommendations for the Numismatist of the Year, the Club of the Year and the YN of the Year awards to the GSNA, 65 - 16<sup>th</sup> St, Toms River, NJ 08753.

Who do you know who has significantly contributed to the hobby? Do you think your club is #1? Do you know a YN who is actively involved in numismatics? Do not delay, nominate them. In this case, actions speak louder than words.

**Note: The deadline for all recommendations is April 30, 2005, so do not delay submitting your choices.**

## CLUBS AROUND THE STATE

### MONDAY EVENINGS

#### **Forks of the Delaware Club**

Meeting Time: First Monday of the month (except on holidays and Labor Day, then the second Monday of the month) at 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: Grace Lutheran Church on 300 Rosebury Street and Route 22 in Phillipsburg, NJ

GSNA Club Representative: Frank Dolan

#### **Sussex County Coin Club**

Meeting Time: Second Monday of the month (except August and December) at 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: VFW Hall, 66 Main Street, Sparta, NJ

President: Tom Stepnaski, Jr.

GSNA Club Representative: Doug DelGurecio

Club Website: [www.uscents.com/SCCC/index.htm](http://www.uscents.com/SCCC/index.htm)

#### **New Jersey Numismatic Society**

Meeting Time: Third Monday of the month (except July and August) at 7:30 PM

Meeting Location: Helen Chase Room at the Madison Public Library  
Madison, NJ

GSNA Club Representative: Harry Garrison

#### **Trenton Numismatic Club**

Meeting Time: Fourth Monday of the month

Meeting Location: AAA Mid-Atlantic Building, 3 AAA Drive Exit 5B off I-195, Hamilton, NJ 08691

GSNA Club Representative and President: Harry Garrison

### TUESDAY EVENING CLUBS

#### **Watchung Hills Coin Club**

Meeting Time: Second Tuesday of each month (except August) at 7:30 PM

Meeting Location: O'Connors Beef and Ale, 708 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ

President: Dave Bailey

GSNA Club Representative: Tom Rothacker

## **TUESDAY EVENING CLUBS (continued)**

### **Northern Valley Coin Club**

Meeting Time: Fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM

Meeting Location: Demarest Methodist Church, 109 Hardenburgh Road, Demarest, NJ

President: John Lorenzo

## **WEDNESDAY EVENING CLUBS**

### **Roxbury Coin Club**

Meeting Time: First Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: Roxbury Township Library, 103 Main Street, Succasunna, NJ

GSNA Club Representative: Steve Sauchelli

Club Website: [www.ledgewood.net/rcc](http://www.ledgewood.net/rcc)

### **Westchester County Coin Club**

Meeting Time: Third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 PM

Meeting Location: Community Meeting Room of St. Pius X School on Ramsey Road in Scarsdale, NY

President: Jonathan Lerner

### **Hackettstown Coin Club**

Meeting Time: Fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM

Meeting Location: Hackettstown Community Center on Route 46

President: Frank Dolan

GSNA Club Representative: Steve Middleton

Club Website: [www.hackettstowncoinclub.org](http://www.hackettstowncoinclub.org)

## **THURSDAY EVENING CLUBS**

### **Ocean County Coin Club**

Meeting Time: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month 7:40 PM (Jrs at 6:50)

Meeting Location: Ocean Fire House (Arnold Ave Pt. Pleasant Beach)

President: Jim Majoros

GSNA Club Representative: Dennis Berube

Club Website: [www.occoinclub.org](http://www.occoinclub.org)

## **West Jersey Numismatic Society**

Meeting Time: Third Thursday AT 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Collingswood, South Jersey  
corner of Park Blvd and Dill

President: Fred R. Giebel

Contact: Dennis Helmer at [D.P.HELMER@COMCAST.NET](mailto:D.P.HELMER@COMCAST.NET)

## **Clifton Coin Club**

Meeting Time: First and third Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM.

Meeting Location: Clifton Recreation Department, 1232 Main Street,  
Clifton, NJ

President: Frank Ortega

Contact Person: Betty Kapchus at [cavellplace@aol.com](mailto:cavellplace@aol.com)

## **The Currency Club of Chester County**

Meeting Time: Third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: Borough Hall, corner of Adams and Gay Streets, West  
Chester, PA

President: Nelson Page Aspen

## **FRIDAY EVENING CLUBS**

### **Summit/Chatham Coin Club**

Meeting Time: Second Friday of each month

Meeting Location: Chatham Borough Fire House, 54 Fairmont Ave,  
Chatham Borough

President: Warren Rymer

## **SATURDAY AFTERNOON CLUB**

### **Classical Numismatic Society**

Meeting Time: Second Saturday of each month

Meeting Location: William Rohrer Memorial Library Meeting Room,  
MacArthur Drive and Cuthbert Boulevard in Haddon Township, NJ

President: Herb Matthews, Jr. **Meetings include a presentation**

## **ANNUAL MEETING ONLY**

### **New Jersey Exonumia Society**

Meets annually at the GSNA convention in May

GSNA Club Representative: George Skic

## EXHIBITORS WANTED

Spring has sprung!! – Be Part of the Fun!

Dust off your coins, paper money, and exonomia and enjoy the fun and satisfaction of exhibiting your material at the Garden State Numismatic Association Show May 19, 20, and 21, 2005. We supply the cases if needed; we supply the lighting and even the Windex to clean the cases! Each exhibitor will receive an award. The people's choice will be given an extra special award. So come one, come all and join the comradery that makes the hobby what it is today. Be a part of numismatic history. **Space is limited so contact me at 732-785-0449 (evenings).** Juniors are encouraged to show us your "Stuff". The Junior Category will receive a separate award. I'll see you there....

**Note: Due to the fact that time is of the essence, please call me, rather than write. I can then tell you if space is still available.**

Dennis Berube, Exhibit Chairman

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### HAPPY 25<sup>th</sup> EXONOMIA SOCIETY



Exonomia is a broad category of non-money, non-legal tender, numismatic items, including tokens, medals and badges. The Exonomia Society of New Jersey, over 100 members strong, meets once a year at the GSNA convention. This annual meeting is supplemented by a quarterly newsletter, "The Jerseyana". This year will be the NJES's silver anniversary, and to mark the occasion, it will issue a piece of commemorative Exonomia. The President, George Skic, invites you to come visit, come join, and come celebrate!!



L-R Front (Al Zaika, George Skic, Steve Middleton)  
L-R Back (Pete Wachter, Bob Schopp, Ron Thompson)

# HARVESTING DOLLARS (The Sussex County Hoard)

By Tom Hyland

I first made the acquaintance of Dick McDanolds many years ago at the Sussex County Coin Club. Over the years Dick and I did a little coin business, and he shared with me many stories and remembrances of his life in and around Branchville, NJ. Dick can trace his family back to when they settled in the Branchville area around 1799. The McDanolds farm bordered route 206 just outside the town of Branchville. Dick knows many of the businessmen in the area from his years of working the farm, and later working for a local insurance company. He has kept in touch with old classmates and friends of the family.

About a year ago Dick told me that he has an old friend who has “bags of silver dollars” just lying around his place of business. He approached his friend about the possibility of purchasing the dollars. His friend didn’t seem too interested in selling his coins although he is not a coin collector. Whenever I saw Dick, he would mention the silver dollars and let me know that he hadn’t given up. Dick would make it a point to “just happen to be in the neighborhood” of the Roy Company and stop in to visit his friend, Richard Roy.

Gradually, I was given more information about the Roy Company and how they happened to have a small hoard of silver dollars just stashed somewhere in the back room. The Roy Company had its beginning in the late 1800’s as the Roe Company. They sold feed and farming equipment. The business changed hands several times over the years and eventually ended up being owned by Frank and Earnest Roy. Richard Roy is the son of Earnest, and the father and son team ultimately became the owners of the company. One of the big sellers for the Roy Company was a line of farming equipment for harvesting and bailing manufactured by New Holland Machinery of Lancaster County, PA. There was a period of several years when the company ran a promotion called the New Holland Silver Rush.



Whenever a distributor sold a piece of farm equipment, New Holland Machinery would send them a cloth bag in the mail that contained 10 silver dollars. Richard Roy recalled that this promotion took place around 1960. He said they would sometimes give bags of the coins to employees and often they just threw the bags of coins in a drawer in the feed store. He said the drawers got heavy and hard to open. They sat, undisturbed for about 45 years.

In November of 2004, I got a call from Dick McDanolds. He was very excited and exclaimed that he got some of the silver dollars from Richard Roy for us to look at. As I drove to Dick’s house, the numismatist in me was wondering how many 93-S’s or at least ’79-CC’s would be in the group. Dick had all the coins laid out on his dining room table and arranged by date. There were 27 circulated 1922 Peace Dollars, 36 circulated 1921 Morgans and 10 other common Morgans, some of them damaged.

What a disappointment compared to my numismatic fantasies! We made an offer and were able to purchase the coins.

A day or two later, I got another call. When Dick took the check down to the Roy Company to pay for the first lot of dollars, he was given some more. Dick said these coins “looked pretty nice”. What an understatement! When I got to Dick’s house, I saw laid out on the table 109 uncirculated dollars, many of them with beautiful toning. Some were slightly rainbow toned. Other coins clearly showed, in colorful toning, the texture of the bag in which they were stored. Mostly, they were common date Peace Dollars and 1897 and 1898 Morgans. This scene repeated itself a few more times between Thanksgiving and Christmas of 2004. All of the remaining coins were uncirculated and about half of them had very attractive toning. Out of approximately 700 silver dollars there was not a single key date. The best we did was a nice group of uncirculated 1902’s. There were a few New Orleans mint coins, but most were 1897 and 1898. I imagine that the New Holland Company just got a few bags of dollars from the local bank and started doling them out. Imagine if they had gotten one of those bags of CC dollars before the GSA had their turn at marketing them.

About 50 of the coins were deemed good enough to send to NGC in several groupings. Dick and I waited impatiently for the economy grading to be completed and were very pleased with the results. In late February and early March, the coins started arriving from NGC. There were some PL’s, but no DMPL’s. Many of the nicely toned coins graded MS64 as expected, but there were quite a few MS65’s and six MS66’s. The grades were overall higher than expected, and Dick and I went back to Richard Roy to give him an additional check. I’ve set aside some of my favorite coins as well as one of the bags that were used to mail the dollars. I’ll have them on display at the GSNA Convention if anyone would like to see how dollars tone after 50 years in a drawer in a feed store.



## THE GARDEN STATE EXPRESS



Your editor is now boarding the Garden State Express for its maiden journey. 1<sup>st</sup> stop – Point Pleasant Beach – Ocean County Coin Club. Join me on this unique adventure exploring one of New Jersey's most active clubs.

The Ocean County Coin Club meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:40 PM with the junior program beginning at 6:50 PM, in the Ocean Fire House on Arnold Avenue in Point Pleasant Beach, only one block away from the railroad station. This is actually a new location for the OCCC. They were forced to leave the Brick Recreational Center, their home for 23 years. After some anxious days, they found a new home, and they are now in Point Pleasant, only five short blocks from the famous Point Pleasant Boardwalk. (A family visit to the shore could be topped off with a visit to the club.) Guests, including YN's are always welcome.

OCCC always has something going on, exhibits, fun contests, and "show and tells." (The Hood family just became the club's 1,000 member number.) It has the most active YN program in the state with YN's and their families coming from far and wide. One family comes from Red Bank, NJ to partake in the program.

On April 2, they hosted a YN program at the Brick Library. On April 21<sup>st</sup> a National Coin Week Show and Exhibit is scheduled from 6 to 9 PM. (Four YN's are exhibiting.) Their annual Coin Show (Jersey Shore Coin Show & Exhibit) is scheduled for Sept 10, 2005 at the Laurelton Fire House on Route 88 (near Laurelton Intersection - across from Costo) Hours are 9 am to 3 pm. For info, call 732/255-6911.

The OCCC has currently teamed up with a California club (the Vallejo Numismatic Society) to return to the "good old days" when coin hobbyists really searched circulation coinage. They have begun a 'SQS' – State Quarter Search. For ten weeks, starting February 13 to week ending April 23, members of both groups have volunteered to randomly check one or two rolls of quarters each week and to count the popular State Quarters, older clad Quarters, silver Quarters, Bicentennial, and "Drummer" dual-date Quarters. Each participant has been asked randomly check at least one roll per week and record what he or she finds. At the end of the ten weeks, a report will be published in the national numismatic press. Banding the clubs together will provide some fun and joint experiences.

Unfortunately it is time to reboard the train. I certainly enjoyed the visit, and hope that you did too. Check the next page for some pictures of the OCCC. Where will the Garden State Express stop next? Come along with me!!!

A PICTURAL VISIT TO THE OCEAN COUNTY COIN CLUB



Front row (Kai Brower, Jessica Knueppel, Jonathan Samer, Renee Berube)



Final Meeting at the Brick Recreation Hall – Note: No smiling faces



YN Program performed by Gary Catlin, assisted by Dennis

**OUR NEW HOME!**



OCEAN  
SAND  
SEA-GULLS  
AMUSEMENTS

ONLY  
5 BLOCKS  
TO THE  
FAMOUS  
POINT  
PLEASANT  
BEACH  
BOARDWALK

Hurray for our New Home!!!

## TOKEN TOPICS - Guatemala

by Pedro (aka Pete Wacker)

### *GERMANS IN GUATEMALA!*

Germans in Guatemala! An interesting newspaper headline, but so what? Germans are generally well paid, have more vacation time than Americans and travel widely. Get on a bus in Central America or climb a Mayan pyramid first thing in the morning (as my son and I did at Coba) and you could well run into Germans, especially students.

Maybe these Germans were touring the magnificent Mayan site of Tikal in the lowlands or maybe they were visiting Antigua, the first capital, a World Heritage Site. Antigua was the capital for a Central American region from southern Mexico to Panama. Central Americans don't consider Panama part of Central America because it was part of the South American country of Colombia (until we fomented a revolt so that we could get the canal built - "gunboat diplomacy.") Anyway, from a numismatic perspective, Antigua is interesting because there was a mint there until 1773 when a volcanic eruption and earthquake dictated removal of the capital and the mint to what became modern Guatemala City. Old mint mark "G," from 1777 on, "NG." There is a very modest exhibit of coins minted there in a building on the central square. Well, the old capital became known as "Antigua" and little happened there until its discovery as a magnificent colonial town with some of the most sensitively renovated "ruins" for hotels and the like that I have ever seen.

Maybe those Germans were there for Holy Week, which is very special. My son and daughter-in-law (a specialist in Latin America) vacationed there during Holy Week and were duly impressed.

Wait a minute, I just checked the date on that newspaper, it is April 7, 1917! That changes it all. We are at war with Germany. The Lusitania was sunk in 1915! So are there Germans in Guatemala? Is there any evidence from the tokens issued? Let's check Rulau. "SCHLUBACH Y CIA" looks suspicious. That "CIA" by the way, is an abbreviation for the Spanish word for "company," but is oddly appropriate because that's what people in Washington (and elsewhere) call our C.I.A. How about Herman Hopfner? Sounds pretty German to me. "Augener & Wittig?" "Juan Luttmann."

My favorite token (because of its historical and professional interest to me) is one issued by Ricardo Sapper in 1898. Sapper was a successful operator of several coffee plantations, whose brother Karl came to stay with him from 1888 to 1900. Rulau has him as "a famous geologist and author."

## TOKEN TOPICS (continued)

In my graduate school days, when we were studying the history of geography as a discipline, we counted Karl Sapper as a physical geographer. The overlap in the fields is generally in the study of surface landforms and their origins. We call this "geomorphology." Rutgers, for example, currently has people interested in how barrier islands form and how they are affected by storms and the like. They are "coastal geomorphologists."

Back to those German token issuers, and there were quite a few of them. They had largely come to Guatemala in the 1870's, and had not seen the necessity of assuming Guatemalan citizenship. Guatemala follows the U.S. in declaring war against Germany and confiscates many estates. Hmm, I wonder who got that land?

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### How I Started Collecting Coins

By Ron Thompson

I began collecting coins in the mid 1950's in Fair Lawn, New Jersey in order to get a Boy Scout merit badge in coin collecting. I had been a newspaper boy at the time so I had a source of coins to check each week. I saw all sorts of obsolete coins and once my customers knew I was collecting coins they would try and save some of the older ones for me. I actually completed a set of the Mercury dimes except the over date of 1942 over 1941. I had to buy that one about eight years ago. I also collected Buffalo nickels and Standing Liberty quarters and other obsolete coins that came my way. I had to work hard at it since my two older brothers also collected coins. I eventually took over their newspaper routes to increase my source of lucre.

As with most collectors that start young, high school, college, the new world of work caused a trailing off of interest until the mid 1970's when I got back in the hobby collecting straight from the mint. I initially bought the Mint and Proof sets and later also collected the modern commemoratives. Along the way I developed an interest in presidential medals that led to my collecting Official Inaugural Medals (OIM). No mint mark varieties there! I have now collected most of those that can be collected without having to win the lottery first. As I ran out of OIMs to collect, I turned more and more to numismatic literature and books, other artistic and commemorative medals and ancient Greek coins.

In the early 1990's I started to join various coin clubs and groups. I joined the New Jersey Numismatic Society and almost immediately became the Treasurer since I am a CPA. I still am its Treasurer, however, I took about three years off after five years of service. I joined the Garden State Numismatic Association (GSNA) and also became its Treasurer for about five years. Now I just help out the board and run the front desk at its annual three day show each year. Last year the GSNA named me its Numismatist of the Year for my long service to the organization. Currently on a regional and national level, I am a member of the Token and Medal Society, the New Jersey Exonumia Society, the American Numismatic Association, the American Numismatic Society and the Numismatic Bibliomania Society.

## How I Started Collecting Coins (continued)

Locally, I am a member of the Summit/Chatham Coin Club and long time member and Treasurer for the last five years of the Watchung Hills Coin Club.

Aside from the merit badge, I got into coins because I have always been fascinated with their history. When I get an old coin or medal in my hand I can almost feel the history of it. When my Aunt gave me some 1892 Columbia coins I was transported back in time to ride the Ferris Wheel and view the exhibits. Coins and their history are fun and the really big bonus is that you meet some very nice people along the way.

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### “YN COIN ZONE”

Now that Spring is here, more and more will be attending coin shows and conventions, and, hopefully, atting the GSNA Convention in Somerset on Mary 19-20-21. YN's will again have the luxury of being entertained by non-other than Larry Gentile. I have dubbed Larry as the “Father of the YN's” as he has accomplished so much for our YN's in the past 30 or more years.

His YN show will take place at 10 AM on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, and hopefully, all young GSNA members will come out and support hi, binging along a friend, or two or three. At the annual board meeting during the convention, an announcement will be made of the “YN of the Year” and the young man or lady will receive a \$100.00 savings bond, along with a GSNA certificate. The only way that one can receive this award is to be interested and aggressive within the hobby, such as exhibiting, doing show & tells, writing articles, and attending meetings, shows, and conventions. I hope to see all of you at the GSNA convention in May, and make sure that you come up to me and introduce yourself.

Following are three questions. Reply to these and receive one uncirculated foreign note, a buffalo nickel, and a liberty nickel:

1. What was the nickel during WWII with an over-date that commands a premium price?
2. On October 8, 1942, the wartime five-cent piece was composed of copper, silver and what other metal?
3. How many stars are on the Liberty Head nickel?

Send your answers to: Jim Majoros at e-mail:[major@ameri-com.com](mailto:major@ameri-com.com) or mail to: 65 – 16<sup>th</sup> St, Toms River, NJ 08753.

Please include your name, address, and age.

**In addition, we are always looking for articles from YN's to be printed in this journal. Feel free to tell us about your experiences in numismatics.**

# Exploring the ANA

By Fran Cackowski

We have all heard that the American Numismatic Association is a wonderful organization that encourages and educates people to study and collect money and related items. All serious collectors are encouraged to join the ANA and participate in its offerings, but how many actually do so? How many ANA members have no contact with the ANA except to receive the excellent monthly publication, "The Numismatist"? What is available for those not interested in going to Colorado for the education sessions? This is the first of a series of articles in which I try to bring the ANA into your home. We will explore the benefits of joining the ANA for ALL members, exploiting the opportunities that are available.

Since any organization is as good or as bad as its governing board, this article will concentrate on the upcoming ANA election. If you are an ANA member, I strongly encourage you to vote! The hobby is facing a number of difficult challenges. The same wonderful technology that allows one to buy and sell around the world with the click of a few keys, has opened the door to scary international counterfeiting and fraud. As the market heats up, controversial grading is an issue. In addition, the average age of membership is seriously increasing. Do not sit back and let someone else determine the fate of your organization. If you are not a member, now is the time to join!

Voting is easy. A ballot will be included in the May issue of the Numismatist.

The GSNA board has endorsed two Jersey candidates. I thought that it might be appropriate to profile a condensed version of their platforms in this issue. Both candidates will be at the convention, so feel free to meet and greet them. (I am enclosing pictures, so that you can recognize each one.)

Both members have spent their lives with coins, have won multiple awards, and are members of a myriad of coin and collectable clubs – way too many to mention in a short article. Therefore I am concentrating on their platforms, what they will try to accomplish for the future ANA if they were to be elected.

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## Bill Horton – Candidate for President



Bill is the current Vice-President, Convention Committee Chairman, and a member of the Budget Committee.

He believes that he is the best candidate for the President's position. The association has entered the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and it needs a strong leader to help guide the Board in making a number of major decisions for the future of the ANA and the Hobby.

## ANA (continued)

### Bill's Platform and Goals (condensed):

1. Balance the budget
  2. Replenish the endowment fund
  3. Overhaul the educational programs so that ALL members can take advantage of them.
  4. Increase membership
  5. Enhance the website: for example, put the library on the web so that members can search for the books that can be borrowed.
  6. Expand traveling exhibits so that members do not have to travel to Colorado to see the ANA treasures.
  7. Work with the mint to see additional designs on coins based upon American history. Enable the public to collect coins from their pockets.
  8. Place the "Numismatist" on newsstands so that potential members can learn about numismatics and the ANA.
- 

### Michael Fey – Candidate for Governor



Michael now manages his own successful coin business, however, in the past he has had experience with both for-profit, and not-for-profit companies, including such positions as Chairman of the Board. He has a doctorate from Cornell University, and served as an officer during the Vietnam War era.

When I asked Michael why he wanted to run for the Board, knowing that it might curtail his business, he replied that he just loved collecting, and coins were his life. He would like to offer his collective corporate and numismatic experience to the ANA to build a better future for the hobby. His enthusiasm was contagious and shone in his eyes.

### Michael's Platform and Goals (condensed):

1. Address the issue of multiple grading sites and standardize grading standards. The ANA must take an active role in grade standardization.
2. Work with governmental organizations to protect the investor and hobbyist against national and international counterfeit operations.
3. Increase membership.
4. Make the ANA's offerings easily available to every member, no matter where they live, or what their physical abilities are.

## ANA (continued)

5. The ANA should reach out to member clubs, assisting them with speakers, exhibits, presentations etc. in order to allow them to actively increase members.
6. The ANA should take advantage of computer technology in a major way, communicating regularly with member clubs via email.
7. Expand the ANA website to allow members to browse ANA offerings (articles, newsletters, books) and then download them into their own computers.
8. Bottom line, give both individual and club members added value for their dues.

Michael is giving away \$5.00 Indian Campaign Notes to any ANA member who requests one. It is a full color series 1899 \$5 Indian facsimile (obverse) Fey for ANA campaign (reverse) note, suitable for framing to any reader of the GSNA Journal who is also a member of the ANA. All he asks is that he/she sends a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Michael S. Fey, Ph.D., RCI, P.O. Box 9157, Morris Plains, NJ 07950. For those who want to ensure a crisp clean high-grade note, please enclose a large size currency flip. In addition, he will be at the GSNA convention and will give one to any ANA member who requests one.



**Good luck to both candidates!!**

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## In Memorium

The death of a spouse changes one's life forever. It has been a sad time for two of our members. Sadly, two of our member's wives have succumbed after fighting a valiant battle with cancer.

The GSNA wishes to extend heartfelt condolences to Dave Wilson upon the death of his wife of 41 years, Neddra. Dave is a member of many of the GSNA clubs, a full time coin dealer, and past winner of the GSNA Numismatist of the Year award.

The GSNA also wishes to extend heartfelt condolences to Paul Pfeil upon the death of his wife, Prudence. Paul was our GSNA president in 1988 – 1990, and a full time dealer in supplies.

## GSNA LEADERSHIP

President: Spencer Peck, [spencer.peck@gsna.org](mailto:spencer.peck@gsna.org)

First Vice President: Jim Majoros, [jim.majoros@gsna.org](mailto:jim.majoros@gsna.org)

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Membership Chairman: Dave Bailey

Immediate Past President: Robert Beels, [bob.beels@gsna.org](mailto:bob.beels@gsna.org)

## Advertising in the Journal

Interested in advertising in the next GSNA journal?

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| 2005 Journal Rates: \$100.00 | Full page    |
| 50.00                        | Half page    |
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The advertising deadline for the Summer issue is June 1st.

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